‘We Will Never Forget’

City marks 18th anniversary of 9-11 attacks.

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

It was an unimaginable act of terrorism that took the lives of 13 Alexandria residents on Sept. 11, 2001. On Wednesday, Sept. 11, the City of Alexandria held a ceremony to mark the 18th anniversary of what remains the worst terrorist attack in U.S. history. 2,977 people died in the attacks in New York, Pennsylvania and Arlington.

Alexandria firefighters were part of the emergency rescue and recovery efforts at the Pentagon and the hour-long event in Market Square paid tribute to those killed, injured or otherwise affected by the attacks.

Mayor Justin Wilson, acting Fire Chief Corey Smudley, Police Chief Michael Brown and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne participated in the ceremony that honored those who gave their lives to save others and featured the “Return to Quarters” bell-ringing tribute.

Remembering Alexandria’s victims of 9-11

Spec. Craig Amundson
Spec. Craig Amundson, 28, was assigned to the Army’s Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel as a graphic artist and was at work at the Pentagon the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Meritorious Service Award.

Eddie A. Dillard
Eddie A. Dillard, 54, was a passenger aboard American Airlines Flight 77. He left behind a wife of 15 years, Rosemary, and one son, Edrick L. Dillard.

Capt. Robert Edward Dolan
Captain Robert Dolan, 43, was working on the first floor of the Pentagon as head of the U.S. Navy’s Strategy and Concepts Branch when American Airlines Flight 77 struck the building. He was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and commander of the USS John Hancock.

Diane M. Hale-McKinzy
Diane Hale-McKinzy, 38, was a civilian employee for the U.S. Army at the Pentagon. Born in Lithonia, Ga., she served in the Army for four years before beginning a career in civil service.

Bryan C. Jack
Bryan C. Jack, 48, was on American Airlines Flight 77 when the plane struck the Pentagon, where he worked as the head of the Defense Department’s programming and fiscal economics division. Jack and his longtime companion, artist Barbara Rachko, were married on June 16, 2001, just 87 days before his death.

Steven D. Jacoby
Steven “Jake” Jacoby, 43, was the chief operating officer of Metrocall and a passenger on American Airlines Flight 77. A community leader, Jacoby sat on the board of Alexandria and Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Station 11 join soldiers atop the Pentagon to unfurl an American flag during rescue and recovery efforts Sept. 12, 2001. Morris’s brother Seth perished in the attacks on the World Trade Center.

Terence M. Lynch
Terence Michael Lynch, 49, was one of three consultants from Booz, Allen and Hamilton who perished during a meeting at the Pentagon. On the day of his death, he was attending a meeting to extend survivor benefits to military families.

Maj. Clifford L. Patterson Jr.
Major Clifford L. Patterson Jr., 33, was a native of Washington D.C. and graduate of St. John’s College High School. In 1991 he graduated from Howard University as a Distinguished Military Graduate. He was working at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001.

Cmdr. Robert Allan Schlegel
Cmdr. Robert A. Schlegel, 38, followed his father and brothers in the Navy. Prior to being posted to the Pentagon, he was executive officer of the USS Arthur W. Radford, a 9,000-ton destroyer.

Lt. Col. Gary F. Smith (Ret.)
Retired Army Lt. Col. Gary Smith, 55, was at a meeting at the Pentagon when American Airlines Flight 77 struck. A resident of Waynewood, Smith coached his daughter’s soccer teams, kept time for the West Potomac High School track team and was a fixture at high school football games on Friday nights.

Norma Lang Steuerle
Norma Lang Steuerle, 54, was active in the Old Town community as a clinical psychologist and through Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. She was aboard American Airlines Flight 77 en route to visit a daughter in Japan and her husband Eugene, who was teaching a seminar in Singapore.

Sandra C. Taylor
Sandra Carol Taylor, 50, worked as a civilian for the U.S. Army for 30 years and at the Pentagon for almost 10. She was a volunteer at the Hospice of Northern Virginia and at the time of her death was engaged to Timothy Dudgeon.

Meta L. Waller
Meta L. Waller, 60, was a 12-year civilian employee of the U.S. Army at the Pentagon and was at her desk when the hijacked airliner struck the building. Named after her grandmother, the African American sculptor Meta Warrick Fuller, Waller received a master’s degree in government from Harvard University and was active in civil rights affairs.
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Council Notebook

Leaning on Developers

Are developers doing enough to make sure Alexandria has enough affordable housing?

City officials say it’s a delicate dance, encouraging developers to build housing for the crush of people coming to Alexandria while also encouraging construction of new affordable housing units. Requiring too many affordable housing units might scare off developers, leaving the city with a shortfall of market-rate housing and spiraling costs. The result of all that push-and-pull is that developers end up contributing a stock of affordable housing that some say is inadequate.

“Puny” is how Councilwoman Del Pepper described it this week, adding that she worried that people in Alexandria might end up being forced to move to Manassas.

The days of wine and roses may be over for developers. This fall, city officials are planning to come up with a new proposal to make sure that they’re delivering enough units to handle the dreaded Amazon Effect.

Goodbye, Columbus

He didn’t really discover America. He wasn’t battling the notion that the earth was flat. And his name wasn’t even Christopher Columbus.

The explorer Cristoforo Colombo was revered by generations of Americans as a kind of Italian-American heritage celebration every October, commemorations that started in New York and spread to Chicago and other urban areas. By 1934, Congress declared it a federal holiday, and the Virginia General Assembly followed suit to make it an official state holiday as well.

These days Columbus has fallen out of favor, a figure viewed by many as a genocidal zealot symbolic of generations of prejudice and discrimination. That’s why the Alexandria City Council is saying goodbye to Columbus Day and hello to Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

“Recognizing Indigenous Peoples’ Day would be a crucial first step in acknowledging the deliberate and systematic oppression of indigenous people,” said Councilman Mo Seifeldein, who helped craft a resolution with Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker. “Indigenous people have been and continue to be the victims of prejudice and systematic discrimination, which perpetuate high rates of income inequality and exacerbates disproportionate health, education and social standing.”

The resolution, which passed unanimously this week, does not specifically mention the Washington football team. But it does call on sports organizations to cease “heinous use” of indigenous people as mascots.

Big Old Kettle

During the dark days of the Depression, neighbors in Del Ray responded to the economic crisis by — what else — throwing a huge party. Alexandria native Norman Grimm described a 2005 oral history, locating it in the yard outside the Poor House at the intersection of Monroe Avenue and Route One.

“It had a big old kettle,” explained Grimm. “Everybody brought whatever they had, threw it in. Potatoes, carrots, I don’t care what, you just throw it in there.”

While officials from the city’s recreation department built a fire under the kettle, children from the neighborhood played in the open fields. After the games were over, everyone would gather and use the cans they brought the vegetables in to dip into the kettle and enjoy the Del Ray gumbo.

“It was so beautiful,” recalled Grimm. “You didn’t realize it when you were doing it what was happening, but everyone was togetherness, everybody at Del Ray.”

This week, the Alexandria City Council voted unanimously to honor that memory by renaming a plot of land near that celebration currently called Simpson Triangle to Kettle Park. A public hearing for this name change is scheduled for this weekend.

— Michael Lee Pope

Dismal Science

Construction permits are down and unemployment claims are up, raising red flags for economists.

By Michael Lee Pope

Don’t look now, but your economy may be tanking.

A new report from the Stephen Fuller Institute at George Mason University paints a grim picture for the Washington region, including a forecast for the near future that’s significantly in the red. The folks at the institute make a habit of looking at something they call the “Washington Region Leading Index,” cocktail of data on construction permits, retail sales, unemployment claims and consumer expectations. Alarmingly, the numbers are worsening in all those categories.

“We’ve run out of the easy growth, and people are starting to get nervous,” said Jeanette Chapman, deputy director of the Fuller Institute. “Part of that is a federal story, and around here we feel that pretty acutely.”

The Washington Leading Index has been heading into the red since last spring, a slowdown that mirrored the downturn in the national economy. In ordinary times, the Fuller Institute might brush that aside and remain bullish about the resilience of the region. But the latest issue of the institute’s usually staid Washington Economy Watch raised some red flags about the current state of affairs.

“These are not ordinary times,” declares the September issue of Washington Economy Watch, “when national and global economic policy is being formulated on the fly, communicated on Twitter, and can be reversed on a whim.”

Alexandria City Manager Mark Jinks acknowledges the city is not recession proof. But, he adds, the current situation in Alexandria is stronger than the region. Part of that is Northern Virginia’s relationship with the military industrial complex, which is likely to continue going strong even if the economy tanks. Plus, he says, the construction business is booming and the region doesn’t have enough housing units for all the jobs that are being added.

“The future of the economy always concerns us,” said Jinks. “Where interest rates are, we’re in uncharted territory. So we’re all going to have to watch it carefully.”
A Hero’s Return
Veterans salute remains of slain soldier.

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

Veterans and first responders from across the Washington region gathered in Alexandria Sept. 10 to salute the remains of Master Sergeant Jose J. Gonzalez as the casket of the Special Forces Green Beret arrived from Delaware’s Dover Air Force Base in preparation for burial at Arlington National Cemetery.

A police escort led a caravan through the streets of Old Town to Cunningham Turch Funeral Home on Cameron Street, where Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and former mayor Allison Silberberg joined members of the Alexandria Fire Department, American Legion and Patriot Guard Riders in silent salute to the fallen hero.

“It was important for us to be here today,” said American Legion District 17 Commander Jim Glassman. “He was a hero and made the ultimate sacrifice for this country.”

A private memorial was held at Cunningham Turch for Gonzalez, one of two Green Berets from the Army 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) who was killed in the line of duty Aug. 21 in Afghanistan. Burial at Arlington National Cemetery took place Sept. 11.

Gonzalez, 35, died along with MSG Luis E. Deleon-Figueroa, 31, in Afghanistan’s Faryab Province as the result of small-arms fire. Both were assigned to the 7th Special Forces Group at Eglin AFB in Florida and dozens of Special Forces Green Berets were on hand to salute their fallen comrade. A native of California, Gonzalez had been with the 7th Special Forces Group since 2014, serving as an engineer sergeant. He had previously deployed to Afghanistan in 2016 and had deployed to South America, the 7th Group’s primary area of responsibility, in 2014 and 2018.

Gonzalez was also deployed twice as a Marine, in 2003 and 2005, and deployed as an Army infantryman in 2009. He was a Hero’s Return. Page 8
Discover spacious condominium living at ROBINSON LANDING. Designed to embrace the Old Town waterfront, residents will enjoy private river views and access to a suite of onsite amenities such as concierge service, fitness and yoga studios, pet spa, and private reserved garage parking. Come visit the most anticipated new neighborhood in Old Town Alexandria.

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300 SOUTH UNION STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314
I t looks like any other neigh borhood house in Del Ray with a well kept yard and a cozy living room with a comfortable couch and magazines. But Guest House is a residential program for recently-incarcerated non-violent women offenders to help them successfully reenter the community. It is the only residential house of its kind serving women in Northern Virginia.

This week they are successfully celebrating 45 years since opening the first Guest House at One East Luray Ave. and the opening of a second Guest House at 120 South Payne Street.

Kari Galloway, Executive Director, says when she came 14 years ago there were nine beds, and she was the only full-time staff. The State Department of Corrections increased the allocation to 17 beds five years ago and to 26 beds two years ago, nine housed in the East Luray residential facility and the remainder off-site. “They have constantly urged us to add new beds.”

Now the Guest House program is able to open a new residential facility on Payne Street that will increase the bed allocation to 30 women. “This will allow us to move 21 women who have been temporarily housed to our new residential facility.

She says the 21 women were housed in the Hamlet apartment community but it wasn’t ideal. “We know the residential model works.” The new residential location is close to Del Ray and to some of their community partners. Galloway stresses they use their community partners as much as possible. “We’ve been lucky to have them.”

Galloway says the Department of Corrections contract pays for about 2/3 of the Guest House program. “We have to meet a lot of very stringent goals under this contract. For instance, unless the women are at work we have to know where they are every couple of hours, and in what vehicle.”

Fundraisers, grants, assistance from local jurisdictions and “pretty much anyone who will help” supplement program needs not paid for by the Department of Corrections. Galloway points out that one of these important extras which is essential to the success of the program is a new Workforce and Development class held five days a week which “we’ve found is very important.” She explains women get an assessment through an evidence-based program where they identify the women’s strengths and weaknesses and where they need additional support.

Galloway says they have never had to lobby the legislature for money. “They came to us. We have always had good support from the Department of Corrections and our state legislators.” She continues, “well, I think that when you are trying to do good work that people see that. And,” she says, “We kept pushing through so that what some would see as a roadblock we would see as an opportunity. We don’t believe in no; we believe in go.”

Galloway says a recent change in the program has extended the three-month residential stay to six months. The program provides a structured home environment. The houses have bedrooms and baths, kitchen, living room and dining room with meeting rooms in the basement for counseling sessions or AA meetings. Services and support as well as an individual mentor and case manager are available for each person. Galloway says these women come with trauma, abuse and neglect. “They have so many barriers. You have to provide structure and build trust. Change can be difficult.

“We petitioned the Department of Corrections to lengthen the time based on best practices research and through experience. We can’t expect these women to change their whole life in three months.” But she says the disadvantage of extending the residential time period from three to six months is that they received 400 applications which means the women don’t turn over as fast and the program can’t serve as many women.

An Aftercare program helps clients for up to two years after the residential program and assists them as they transition into independent living. If a person completes the entire program, Galloway says the recidivism rate is less than 15 percent.

Galloway praises the staff. “It’s so amazing what they do.” Since she came as the only full-time staff member, they have grown to 12 full time staff and 20 part time including operations, case managers, mentors, development and office application. “The staff has made a really big difference.”

Galloway says, “This is the hardest thing I’ve done in my life and can be mentally exhausting, but it can also be incredibly rewarding. When you get to be with people when they are changing their lives, it is pretty significant. To be able to walk by their side has made me a better person.”

For more information contact Friends of Guest House at: 703-549-8072 or info@friendsofguesthouse.org
SAFETY
Free Medication and Firearm Locking Devices. The City of Alexandria is offering free locking medication boxes and firearm trigger or cable locks as part of Lock and Talk Northern Virginia. Alexandria residents and employees may call 703-746-3436 to obtain these free life-saving devices. Suicide can be prevented. Anyone at risk of suicide, or who knows someone at risk, should get help right away. Call PRS CrisisLink at 703-327-8877; text “CONNECT” to 855111 or call City of Alexandria Emergency Services at 703-746-3401. For life-threatening situations, call 911 immediately.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 14
Alexandria City Council Public Hearing. 9:30 a.m. at City Hall, City Council Chambers, 301 King St. Public Hearing and Consideration of an appeal of the Planning Commission’s June 25, 2019 decision to approve a Preliminary Plat of Subdivision (SUB P2019-0003) at 2911 & 2015 Holly Street to subdivide four existing lots into three lots. Call the Department of Planning & Zoning at 703-746-4666 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/dockets to access dockets, applications, staff reports and meeting webcasts.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 15
Multi Faith Prayer Circle. 3 p.m. on the tree on Montgomery Street between Patrick and Henry streets. Multi Faith Prayer Circle usually meets the 2nd Sunday of the month. Although the Prayer Circle initially met as the result of two murders in that spot, they have expanded their prayers to include the neighborhood, the children of Alexandria, the City, and beyond. Meet at Lost Dog Cafe afterwards for fellowship. Email rachaelch@gmail.com for more.

Survey Deadline. Every other year, the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) conducts a needs assessment survey to understand the community’s desires for its programs and services. Visit alexandriava.gov/Recreation to learn more about the RPCA Needs Assessment Survey and see previous results.

Application Deadline. Energy Masters, a program that promotes a more energy efficient and sustainable community, is now accepting community and student (age 16 or older) volunteer applications for the 2019-2020 training program, which begins in October. To date, more than 220 volunteers have been trained and performed thousands of hours of community service to improve energy efficiency in the homes of more than 950 families living in affordable housing in Arlington County and the City of Alexandria. Visit esactionforfutington.org/community-programs/energy-masters for more.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 18
Hands-Only CPR. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at United States Trademark and Patent Office, Dulany Gardens, 399 Dulany St. In honor of National Preparedness Month, The City of Alexandria encourages everyone to prepare themselves and their loved ones for various disasters that may occur throughout the year. This training, which provides participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to perform CPR without mouth-to-mouth breaths. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Fire for more.

Board of Architectural Review Public Hearing. 7 p.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. View the preliminary docket at alexandria.granicus.com. ViewPublisher.php?view_id=57. Contact Al Cox at 703-746-3835.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21
Kids Consignment Sale. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mills Road. Hosted by MOMS Club of Alexandria. Find deals on top brand kids clothes, toys, and gear. Free admission. Email rosemary.soulyaris@gmail.com or call 617-922-3422 for more.

Community Meeting. 1-3 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. The City of Alexandria invites the public to attend the first of several community meetings about the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) Community Remembrance Project. The meeting will provide information about the project, including the retrieval of a pillar from the National Memorial for Peace and Justice that memorializes the two documented lynchings in Alexandria’s history. Speakers for the Sept. 21 meeting will include Karen Boone, deputy director of Community Education for EJI. Find the City’s Community Remembrance Project page at www.alexandriava.gov/BlackHistory.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 24
Emergency Preparedness Fair. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. At the City’s Emergency Preparedness Fair, in addition to hands-only CPR training, representatives from the Alexandria Fire Department; Volunteer Alexandria; Community Emergency Response Team (CERT); Department of Transportation & Environmental Services; and the Alexandria Health Department will provide the public with information about emergency preparedness and volunteer opportunities. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Fire for more.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 25
“Until Help Arrives.” 1-5 p.m. at Volunteer Alexandria, 123 N. Alfred St. In honor of National Preparedness Month, The City of Alexandria encourages everyone to prepare themselves and their loved ones for various disasters that may occur throughout the year. This training provides information on how to take action in emergency situations while waiting for professional responders to arrive. Space is limited; online registration is required. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Fire for more.
A Hero’s Return

FROM PAGE 4

posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star and was also promoted posthumously to the rank of master sergeant.

He leaves behind a wife and two children.

“We came from all over,” said one member of the Patriot Guard Riders. “Maryland, Washington, Virginia … the entire region. It’s a sad day but an honor for us to pay tribute to one of America’s fallen heroes.”

Members of the Alexandria Fire Department salute as the remains of Master Sergeant Jose J. Gonzalez arrives at Cunningham Turch Funeral Home Sept. 10 in Alexandria.
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Alexandria | 5/5.5 | $1,250,000
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Lorton | 4/3.5 | $698,950
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To the Editor:

This letter from HARC to City Council has already been sent to the City. We submit it for publication as so little was made known to the public about the process and the lack of transparency by NOVA Parks.

Dear Mayor Wilson, Members of Council, and City Manager Mark Jinks:

The Historic Alexandria Resources Commission (HARC) recently learned that the existing 40-year lease on the historic Bank of Alexandria building, located at the corner of Fairfax and Cameron streets next to Carlyle House, will expire next year, and that the owner of the building, the NOVA Parks (formerly NVRPA), has issued an RFP regarding the future of the building. The City of Alexandria, of course, is member of NOVA Parks and as a steward has an important stake in outcome of that RFP, not only in terms of historic preservation, but also to ensure that the public interest is protected. As the Bank of Alexandria building is among the most treasured and historically significant structures in our city, HARC is concerned about the process regarding the RFP itself and opportunities for public input, and for future public access. HARC also would like to offer some specific suggestions for the City to consider.

The Bank of Alexandria building dates from 1807 and was the first bank in Virginia chartered by the First and Second Bank of the United States. The bank as a financial institution played an important role in the economic development of Alexandria and the region. The building itself is one of the few bank buildings from that period remaining south of Philadelphia. The City helped protect the building when the old Mansion House Hotel (later known as the Carlyle Apartments) from 1855 was demolished as part of the restoration of Carlyle House (1752) in the early 1970s. That demolition itself was controversial as the Mansion House building had its own significance, and the bank building had been incorporated into the hotel. Fortunately, not only was the bank saved, it was restored as part of a creative adaptive use effort with NOVA Parks, to include the original bank lobby on the first floor, part of which was used as a small museum. The first tenant, bank of Virginia, had a branch office in the space and operated the museum space as a public education outreach. The terms of the lease mention both use as a bank and the museum. Subsequently, after Bank of Virginia was acquired and the branch closed, NOVA Parks permitted sublease to a financial company that informally agreed to allow the use of the restored lobby space for outside groups (primarily Carlyle House).

HARC is concerned that the RFP makes no mention of how this important restored space will be maintained or what access the public may have to it in the future. In addition, no public hearings or other opportunities for input are scheduled by the City as a member of NOVA Parks, nor by NOVA Parks itself. As NOVA Parks (and the City as a member) is authorized by the Commonwealth of Virginia as an agency with a mission to conserve and protect Northern Virginia’s natural and cultural resources, HARC would

See Lack of. Page 20
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Renaming Columbus Day

Since the City Council proposed renaming Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day two weeks ago, I have seen some appalling defenses of the status quo in these pages. The defenses are so odious, they backfire, far more effectively making the case that we should change the holiday name.

First, some letter writers have argued, other “explorers” were more brutal than Columbus. Splitting hairs over which conqueror killed more people in worse ways misses the point entirely. Others have noted that Columbus should not be blamed for indigenous deaths in this country because he isn’t the one who came to North America. This academic handwaving is meant to distract from his role as the figurehead for European colonization, initiating a centuries long cycle of invasion, enslavement, and genocide all along the shores of the Americas.

The third argument defends European behavior as self-defense: one letter writer described the situation as “kill or be killed.” This is an absolutely flabbergasting line of thinking that erases the fact that indigenous communities were invaded. Finally, there are those who believe we should not question the foundational mytholog of Columbus’s “discovery,” because doing so calls into question the legitimacy of our presence in North America today. Sounds like Columbus’s “discovery,” be-cause doing so calls into question the foundational mythol-

Let’s consider the historical fact that Columbus was Ryan Boudreaux, John Northcutt, 703-774-9431

CIRCULATION
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Gaze...
Opinion

Reaction to Assault Weapons at Alexandria Farmers Market

Commonwealth could allow localities to regulate the public carriage of assault weapons.

By Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36)

Every Saturday morning my father and 12 year-old son go to the Alexandria Farmers Market. My son gets cookies. My dad gets ham biscuits. Two weeks ago, they brought me some homemade salsa. This weekend, they got something else.

Four men in a group called “The Right to Bear Arms” showed up at the Alexandria City Farmer’s Market carrying AR-15 assault rifles outfitted with scopes and bipods for sniping. According to a video of one of the group members, they staged this action to “educate people” about gun rights and “exercising our constitutional rights without fear to do so.” The video is also filled with the usual references to freedom and the government taking away rights if you do not use them. He also indicated they intended to do these kind of “monthly walks.”

While the current President has lowered the bar for socially acceptable political conduct and while this was technically legal, this was outrageous.

Malvo and Muhammad terrorized Northern Virginia for two weeks using an AR-15. Every time I hear that word, it triggers memories for me of the ten people who were murdered and three others, including a 13-year-old child, who were shot in 2002. Those memories have only been reinforced by more recent carnage inflicted by the AR-15 including Poway, Aurora, Orlando, Parkland, Las Vegas, Sandy Hook, Waffle House, San Bernardino, Sutherland Springs, El Paso, Tree of Life and Midland/Odessa two weeks ago.

The sight of an AR-15 in public is anything but reassuring.

These “education lessons” are extremely dangerous. Perusing a farmers market with an assault rifle in a country that sees an assault rifle related mass shooting about six times per year is more likely to promote shock, fear, and terror than it is likely to “educate” anyone. If anything, the presence of an AR-15 is more likely to incite violence than to deter it.

The United States and Virginia are currently being strangled by a small minority who wield political power orders of magnitude larger than their numbers.

Background checks are supported by over 90% of the public. “Red Flag Laws” that would allow judges to take guns away from dangerous persons are supported by over 80%. Laws limiting ammunition clips are supported by over 60% of voters. Assault weapon bans have majority support. None of these bills are capable of passing Republic- controlled General Assembly or the U.S. Senate because of internal Republican Party politics.

There is no question in my mind that this past weekend’s actions were not done to “educate” anyone – they were done to threaten, intimidate and terrorize a community that believes firearms should be more tightly regulated. The First Amendment protects speech, but it does not protect physical threats.

While the vast majority of gun owners are law abiding citizens and would never dream of parading their weapons in public spaces, this incident demonstrates there is a minority who are irresponsible. Similarly, while most people drive safely, there are others who would be happy to drive 100 miles per hour on the Beltway.

We have rules to keep our communities safe and control people who are incapable of being either responsible or exercising self-control.

Alternatively, the Commonwealth should consider allowing localities to regulate the public carriage of assault rifles to be consistent with the expectations of each local community. I am sure we will be taking this up next session in Richmond.

In the meantime, my advice for this group called “The Right to Bear Arms” is simple: Go home and stay away. You are not doing anything to help your cause. People go to farmers markets to buy local food. They don’t go there for lessons in firearm rights, terrorism, bullying, intimidation or demonstrations of male insecurity.

Feel free to send me any feedback at scott@scottsurowell.org.

Planning for Retirement Years

Meg Newhouse, Ph.D., author of “Legacies of the Heart: Living a Life that Matters,” will lead a workshop on planning for retirement years, Saturday, Sept. 14, 1-4 p.m. at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. Dr. Newhouse is a nationally known pioneer in crafting plans for life after retirement.

This is a free event. Attendees must register by Sept. 12. For more Information, 703-228-4878.
LTA Presents “A Few Good Men”
Riveting military courtroom drama based on events at Guantanamo Bay.

By Steve Hibbard
The Gazette

The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) is producing “A Few Good Men,” from now through Sept. 28, 2019. This riveting courtroom drama tells the story of military lawyers at a court-martial who uncover a high-level conspiracy in the course of defending their clients, two U.S. Marines accused of murder. Based on events that took place at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in 1986, the play investigates both the nature of our military mentality and the Marine Code of Honor. The show is produced by Robert Kraus.

Director Kathleen Barth said she proposed to direct the play because of her family’s military roots—her parents served in the U.S. Army, and her older brother currently serves there. “In fact, my mother’s military background closely resembles that of Mrs. Jo Galloway’s journey in this play. My mother enrolled and served in the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M in the late ’70s and early ’80s, when women were required to take military classes. After graduating, she reported to the corps and served close to home for me, hence my profound attraction to this play and desire to direct it.”

As far as challenges, she added: “Like many of (writer Aaron Sorkin’s) plays and screenplays, ‘A Few Good Men’ includes a plethora of location changes and flashbacks that ultimately weave the narrative together. While these plot devices are relatively simple to pull off in film, they can be difficult to stage for a live performance. I decided that the most effective way to convey all of the locations and the flashbacks was to stage this play in a kaleidoscopic manner. To pull this off, I decided we needed a simplistic set that would allow us to designate multiple areas of the stage for various locations in D.C. and in Guantanamo. I also pulled lighting into the staging to illuminate the tight areas on stage that we’d use for the various locations and flashbacks.”

Emma Wesslund is playing the role of Lt. Cmdr. Joanne Galloway, who works in internal affairs for the Navy JAG Corps. “While desk work wasn’t her first choice (in Act II of the play we learn she joined the JAG Corp because ‘they wouldn’t let her’ fly the planes or drive the boats.), she approaches it with rigor and passion. To Commander Galloway, her assignment at internal affairs is an opportunity to make sure things are run properly, all service members are treated with respect, and nobody falls through the cracks. These values lead her to flagging needed. Contact Eric Leighty directly 703-768-4172 or visit www.mvbands.com/ join-us/.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 12
Fort Hunt Meetup, Walk with a Ranger. 10-10:30 a.m. at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. Join a national park ranger on a 1.5 mile walk through historic Fort Hunt Park, be prepared to learn about some World War II secrets. Meet at Area E parking. Free. Call 703-235-1530 for parking.

Fall Lawn Care and Turf Alternatives. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Bealey Library, 5005 Duke St. Fall is the ideal time to restore cool-season grass, the most common turf grass grown on lawns in our area. This program describes how to improve a lawn and the underlying soil, and outlines steps for preventing and controlling weeds to ensure a beautiful lawn, with an emphasis on sustainable practices that minimize the impact on native pollinators and wildlife. Free. Questions? Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlaes@gmail.com. To reserve a spot, visit mgvarlases.org/public- education-events/ocv-horticulture-programs-registration/.

THURSDAY/SUNDAY/SEPT. 12-15
Shop and Stroll. Various boutiques throughout Old Town. Twenty Old Town Boutique District shops will transform into a Passport Destination

See Calendar, Page 16
As the air crisps up and the leaves turn, teams across the nation are taking to the gridiron, and legions of fans are taking their seats in pubs and restaurants across town, eager to lead their team to victory. Here are three places to have a bite to eat and a good beer while you take in a football game.

**Glory Days Grill, 3141 Duke St.**
The sports bar and grill over on Duke Street is a football fan's version of heaven. The sprawling space lacks nothing in the way of televisions; from nearly every vantage point across the multiple dining areas, it's easy to get your fix of football. Looking to listen to a specific game? Turn your table's radio dial to match up with the TV of your choosing and get the play-by-play while you eat. And speaking of food: Glory Days has many of the pub-fare options you've come to expect from a sports bar – pretzels, onion rings, wings and crab cakes are all in attendance – but the menu spreads out from there. Pastas, tacos and even the Impossible Burger also grace the pages of the menu, appealing to sports fans of many types of taste-buds. Order a beverage from the restaurant's extensive rotating beer list to round out the meal and cheer your team on to victory.

**Aslin Beer Company, 847 S. Pickett St.**
The city's newest brewery is also a great place to catch a game and have a beer and a bite to eat. The Herndon natives' Alexandria outpost has been open and bustling since midsummer, and already it's becoming a go-to weekend spot for many residents and visitors. Why not add a game to your reasons to visit? The tasting room sports a number of televisions all well placed to catch all the action. But of course, the beer is the star of the show. Aslin delivers with a dozen or so selections at the tasting room (with one or two canned varieties to take home at any given time), ranging from IPAs to double and triple IPAs to stouts to pale ales to sours. The brewery also has a food truck whipping up some specials daily to accompany the beers. Like the beer list, the food menu rotates fairly regularly, but light bites and heartier sandwiches are items you can count on.

**Charlie's on the Avenue, 1501 Mount Vernon Ave.**
Charlie's opened last year with the goal of becoming a family-friendly neighborhood sports pub and hangout, and it's certainly angled its sports-watching experience to be just that. For game-watching purposes, your best bet is the bar area. Several large TVs adorn the space and are just waiting to broadcast a Saturday or Sunday matchup. Charlie's offers a vast array of beer options to help you cheer your team on (or drown your sorrows after a loss), and many of them are local. Right now, pick up a saison ale from Richmond's Ardent Craft Ales or an Oktoberfest from Port City Brewing just across town. About a dozen options are on offer between the draft selections and bottles and cans, from pilsners to stouts. Paired with local oysters, Cuban nachos, a BLT sandwich or even vegan tacos, you'll be well fortified.

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.
LTA Presents “A Few Good Men”

From Page 14

case about two enlisted men in Guantanamo Bay who she feels weren't treated fairly. She added: “Before working on this play, I didn't know much about daily life in the military, especially for a Navy JAG Officer. It's been invaluable to have so many people in the cast and crew who have served, or are actual gamers, some refer to the role of games in life. $2,500 in prizes awarded during opening reception on Sept. 15, 4-6 p.m. (free). Visit www.nfna.org or call 703-548-0035.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 13-14

Mirror Mirror: Orange Grove Dance. Friday, Sept. 13, 7 and 9 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1 King St. The City of Alexandria commissioned a series of original site-specific performances for the sound-responsive installation Mirror Mirror. Composer and violinist David Schulman and Orange Grove Dance will perform on select dates between July and October. All performances are free and feature lawn seating. Lawn chairs and blankets are encouraged. Leave pets at home. Visit alexandriava.gov/publicart for details.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 13-15

Anniversary Celebration. The City of Alexandria invites the public to participate in the fifth anniversary of the dedication of the Concordia and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial (1001 S. Washington St.). The weekend celebration will feature a lecture by local historian Char McCargo Bah; a wreath laying ceremony at the site; a luncheon to honor descendants families with a keynote address by National Park Service Superintendent of Fort Monroe National Monument, Terry E. Brown; a curated tour of Alexandria's African American heritage sites and an evening candlelight vigil at the memorial. Several events will be free and open to the public. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Historic for details.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

12th Annual 9/11 Heroes Run. 8 a.m. at Carl Sandburg Middle School, 4242 Feet Run Road. The Travis Manion Foundation, which is one of the nation's largest veteran nonprofit organizations, and the Alexandria Police Department will host the 9/11 Heroes Run 5K race and 1 mile Fun Run in Alexandria. The Alexandria race will also host the VA Fallen Heroes Memorial, a 28-foot wide American flag made entirely of dog tags that audiences form their own opinions and leave at the end of the show wanting to talk about them.”

Miguel Rosario is playing the role of Lt. Jonathan James Kendrick, who is the embodiment of the Marine. He said he’s “accepted and believes in the Corps values to the nth degree, while also slightly twisting them to the point of zealosity and fanaticism. Those values really align with his fair and his black and white views of morality and soldierly virtue.”

For challenges, he said: “It was challenging to manage rehearsal schedules with current family and active duty military commitments while still arriving at each rehearsed fresh and ready to perform. Maintaining fresh vocal cords while also going ‘full throttle’ in rehearsing the plot,”

Every service member and that the Corps values of our institutions (while imperfect just like there members) have been created and maintained in a manner that still ultimately lead us towards justice and the protection of innocents.”

Jonathan Mulberg is playing the role of Sam Weinberg, one of the three defense lawyers in the play. “He is a family man and best friends with Daniel Kaffey. While not the same caliber of lawyer as Kaffey, Sam Weinberg holds his own and is not afraid to challenge his team and the military establishment to do what is right.”

He added that learning the script was his biggest challenge. “Aaron Sorkin’s style of writing is very different than what I am used to as an actor. I also had to make sure that all the legal jargon sounded natural and confident, and that was a major challenge,” he said.

LTA is producing “A Few Good Men,” from now through Sept. 28, 2019. Showtimes are Wednesday through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are $21 to $24. The venue is located at 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria, VA. Visit the website at www.theatintheatre.com.
Hank’s Pasta Bar to Rebrand

By Hope Nelson

After three years of service, Hank’s Pasta Bar in North Old Town is closing its doors for an extensive remodel and rebranding, the JL Restaurant Group announced on Thursday.

In a statement, the restaurant management wrote: “After 3 great years in Old Town, Hank’s Pasta Bar is closing to make space for a new, unnamed concept from JL Restaurant Group. At the end of this month, the restaurant will begin exciting renovations that bring new options to devoted guests, including a seasonal rooftop bar and an expanded regional Italian menu. The new addition will open at the end of 2019 with the same warm hospitality, leadership team, and hand-crafted pasta. Come in before we close to indulge in your favorites! We’re thrilled to evolve with this community and are looking forward to a lively, new concept in the same great location. For continued updates, follow @hankspastabar on social media.”

Owner Jamee Leeds and her team were not available for further comment.

“Restaurant: Impossible” Seeks Volunteers in Alexandria Visit

The Food Network’s “Restaurant: Impossible” visits Alexandria later this month, with Chef Robert Irvine coming to the Foxfire Grill to give it a fresh look and new menu. And the network wants the community to be a part of the proceedings with both the renovation itself as well as Foxfire Grill’s grand re-opening. Over the course of two days – Sept. 23 and 24 – Irvine and his team will undertake a full revamp of the Foxfire Grill, bringing a fresh look and feel to the restaurant with a budget of $10,000. The Food Network production crew is looking for many hands to make light work as the process gets under way.

First comes the renovation and rebranding effort. Irvine and team are seeking skilled volunteers to help spruce the restaurant up. “Volunteers may be any licensed or certified individuals in painting, crafting, constructing, remodeling, cleaning, decorating etc. (depending on your skill set). We are always looking for skilled contractors, electricians, plumbers, upholsterers’ and painters to help out and donate their time but we welcome all skill sets and skill levels always,” the Food Network said in a statement.

“The show is also looking for diners to partake in the Foxfire Grill’s grand re-opening. Seatings will be first-come, first-served, based on time of RSVP. To volunteer for either of these roles, email volunteer@restaurantimpossiblevolunteers.com by 3 p.m. on Sept. 19. For construction assistance, put “1605 VA Volunteer” in the subject line; to try your luck getting a seat at the re-opening, put “1605 VA Reservations.” — Hope Nelson
FOOD for a king on a family budget

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Wednesday – Roast Turkey Special Thursday – Lasagna Night Friday – Fish Fry Saturday & Sunday – Full Brunch Buffet Ooneletti Street 734 North St. Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 703-548-1616 RoyalRestaurantVA.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Fair, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 1200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Discover the 18th century at Mount Vernon’s annual Colonial Market & Fair. Experience early American life with dozens of historic craftpeople and re-enactors. Take in the sights and sounds of the marketplace on Mount Vernon’s 12-acre field and chat with colonial artisans selling traditional handcrafted food and wares. Included in general admission ($20 adults; $12 youth). Visit mountvernon.org or call 703-890-7000.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 15
Downtown Abbey Tours, 2–3 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronoco St. Explore the surprising connections between people and places of the world and those of the Lee-Fendall House through special “Downtown Abbey” themed tours of the museum thru fall. $10. Visit www.leeleifendallhouse.org or call 703-575-1789.

Chamber Concert Series, 3:55 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association sponsors a chamber music series, with works from Sep. 15, at the Lyceum in Old Town featuring small ensembles and soloists. Free. Donations are appreciated. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 703-746-1222.

Live Music: Al Petteway & Amy White plus Eli Lev, 7 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Al Petteway & Amy White’s acoustic repertoire includes original, traditional, contemporary Celtic and Appalachian influenced music with occasional nods to Blues, New Age and Jazz – all played on a variety of stringed and percussive instruments. Eli Lev is a singer, songwriter, traveler, and passionate musician. $18 in advance at www.FocusMusic.org and for $20 at the door.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/SEPT. 16-20
Nature for Tiny Tots, 10-11 a.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 7001 Lockheed Blvd. Children and adult will learn about plants, animals and habitats through songs, crafts and activities. Three sessions are designed for children age 2-3 and a-half and meet on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays for eight weeks from 10 to 11 a.m. Sessions begin the week of Sept. 16. $9 per child, and a supply fee of $5 is due to the instructor at the first class. Adult participation is required. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www Fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ huntley-meadows.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 17
Jones Point Meetup, 11 a.m.–noon at Jones Point Park, Jones Point Drive.Join a national park ranger to explore the long history of this little piece of land and see the last remaining inland lighthouse on the Potomac River, once a beacon to boats and commerce on the river. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit www.nps.gov/jepp/planyourvisit.htm for more.

DAR Genealogy Research, 1-3 p.m. at Alexandria Genealogical Society, Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Author and genealogist Eric G. Grundset, longtime DAR Library Director, will speak about his genealogy work he has published on the American Revolutionary War and their importance for genealogists. Free, open to the public. Visit www.mogenalogy.org for more.

LATIN AMERICA – DNA Histories, 7-8 p.m. at Kate Walker Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Dr. Miguel Villar, lead scientist with NGC’s Genographic Project, presents how DNA testing shows how Native American, African and European immigrants and later Hispanic and Latin American have uncovered migration patterns of the region’s history. Registration preferred. Free. Email mmizmenean@alexlibrarry.org, call 703-746-1714 or visit alexlibrarry.org/event/3053669.

TUESDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 17-22
Fall Book Sale. At Charles E. Beatty Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The Friends of the Beatty Central Library will hold their Fall Book Sale. Tuesday, 4-8 p.m.; Members’ Preview ($15 memberships available at the door), Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.–8:30 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1–4:30 p.m.; unless specifically marked. $1 hardbacks, paperbacks, children’s books and media items. All genres. Discount days: Saturday. Call 703-746-1702 or visit beattyfriends.org.

SEPT. 17-23
Celebrate Constitution Week. On Sept. 17, at 9:30 a.m., Mayor Justin Wilson will sign the official Proclamation commemorating Constitution Week, in Council Chambers at City Hall. The signing marks the country’s 232nd birthday. The U.S. Constitution is the framework of the American government and structure – and upholds and protects the freedoms Americans hold dear. Participating in the signing are students from four Alexandria City Public Schools; T. C. Williams High School, Samuel W. Tucker and Doug McKeith Public Schools and Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 18
Performance: Nikolas Stievol, 7-10 p.m. at The Lyceum: Alexandria’s History Museum, 201 South Washington St. Alexandria Sister Cities Committee presents Swedish Pianist Niklas Stievol, who returns to Alexandria to perform a varied program with music by Haydn, Beethoven, Skryabin, and Bartók. Light refreshments will be served. Visit www.alexandriagov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 19
Fort Hunt Meetup, Walk with a Ranger, 10:30-noon at Fort Hunt Park, 6099 Fort Hunt Road. Join a national park ranger on a 1.5 mile walk through historic Fort Hunt Park, to be prepared to learn about some of the World War II secrets. Meet at Area E parking. Free. Call 703-725-1230 for more.

Make and Take Lunch Break Social, 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. at 2425 Eisenhower Ave (on the grassy knoll). Take a lunch break outside to refuel and recharge with co-workers. In August a TIFF DVA local business will pop-up and offer a themed craft (while supplies last). Email muraisipots@gmail.com or visit www.FR.com/timetable for more.


FRIDAY/SEPT. 20
Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Resource Fair, 5-7:45 p.m. at the Hylton Education Center on the campus of Seneca Northern Virginia Medical Center, 2300 Osprey Blvd., Woodbridge. Mental health experts from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, Prince William County Community Services, National Alliance on Mental Illness and many more, will gather to take part in this important conversation. Non-profits will discuss area resources, warning signs, behaviors, treatments and/or options when it comes to mental illness and suicide prevention. Free, open to the public. More at mentalhealtheventeurope.com.

Alexandria Citizens Band, 8-10 p.m. on the front steps of the Alexandria City Theater, 100 East Windsor Rd. Join the Alexandria Citizens Band, one of the oldest brass bands in America, at their first rehearsal of the season. No auditions, they welcome all who want to have fun, find new friends, and play free concerts. Recruiting volunteer members in all sections – drum, tuba, baritone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, saxophone, flute, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon players. Free. Call 703-820-6675 or go to come-play-with-us.eventeurope.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21
Arts on the Horizon 5K Fundraiser. 8 a.m. in Fort Hunt Park. Arts on the Horizon, a nonprofit theatre for children ages 0-12, is hosting their 5th Annual 5K Fundraiser. Families are invited to run or walk to support Arts on the Horizon’s arts education programs and performances. $25. Register at www.artsontehorizon.org/5K-fundraiser.

Gardening Fun for the Whole Family. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Celebrate Fall Garden Day, a day of activities for everyone in the family. Visit with a host of local plant and craft vendors selling everything needed for fall gardening. There will be a silent auction, kids’ fall sale, live music, food and a kids’ activities table.大门是免费的，而且一天是一个机会为全家庭去参观一个由音乐和公众花园的在大西洋城。Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

Walking With Washington Tour. 10 a.m.-noon. Starts at Ramsay Alley at 109 N. Fairfax St. Explore important sites associated with George Washington in his hometown. Led by an old-line Virginian with family stories about Washington, this tour focuses on his character and values, and significant people and events in his life and American history where they occurred. No fee. Call 703-755-3782 or visit www.alexandriacec.org.

Make and Take Lunch Break Social, 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. at 2425 Eisenhower Ave (on the grassy knoll). Take a lunch break outside to refuel and recharge with co-workers. In August a TIFF DVA local business will pop-up and offer a themed craft (while supplies last). Email muraisipots@gmail.com or visit www.FR.com/timetable for more.


See Calendar, Page 19
ENTERTAINMENT

Football Night at ASC

Sportsman’s Club to host High School Football Coaches Night.

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

T

he Alexandria Sportsman’s Club will kick off its 2019 year with High School Football Coaches night Sept. 18, which will introduce to the public Nathanial Ebel, the new head coach at Episcopal High School. Held at the Old Dominion Boat Club, the evening will feature remarks from coaches representing all four Alexandria high schools as they preview the 2019-2020 season.

In addition to Ebel, those expected to attend include Bishop Ireton head coach Charles “Chip” Armstrong, who is in his second year at the helm of the varsity football program; TC Williams coach James Longerbeam, who is in his fourth year, and St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes coach Bernard Joseph, who is in his 11th year.

The organization will also recognize the Athletes of the Month, student athletes who are nominated by their coach and athletic departments who have shown both academic and athletic prowess in the current athletic season.

The ASC High School Coaches Night is free and open to the public and includes complimentary light dinner and refreshments beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Old Dominion Boat Club in Old Town (200 Strand St.). The meeting begins at 7:15 p.m. with awards presentations followed by a presentation and Q&A with the featured coaches. www.alexandriavasports.org.
Letters

FROM PAGE 12

Seminary

online crusade, funded by outside money, to cut the current 4 lanes down to only 2 lanes for bikes, and leftover space for cars. The goal is to accommodate a handful of non-resident, non-tax-paying, non-local voting people who are lobbying for bike lanes. This would be done at the expense of the thousands of drivers who use Seminary street on a daily basis.

The practical issue for biking to work is NOT the route you take, but whether there is a shower available when you get there. Who wants to sit next to a smelly cyclist all day long at work??

The facts are not on the side of Wilson and Lambert, nor is resident support by those who pay the salaries for City officials and staff. Among the significant items to consider are:

❖ The Mayor and some of his Council colleagues continue to ignore the benchmark study organized by Michigan State University on behalf of the Michigan Department of Transportation. This pre-eminent study has national implications as well as for cities like Alexandria. It emphasizes that forcing a Road Diet on any road with more than 10,000 vehicles daily is “problematic” and should be avoided. Seminary already has twice as many cars as the safe maximum for ANY Road diet.

❖ Similarly, the study found that conversions from 4 lanes to 3 lanes will create “significant delays when average daily traffic exceeds 10,000 [vehicles].”

❖ Nor would the Road Diet reduce the rate of car crashes, as claimed by its proponents, but could increase them “because of increased volumes in the right lane due to the 2-1 land reduction in a public process. In addition, there is no transparency in regards to the availability of the property, nor even whether a realtor has been engaged. Even NOVA’s FY 2019 budget is silent on any potential sale or lease. While NOVA’s lapse may be a matter of oversight, certainly the City can and should step up to solicit public input, and establish some tangible, transparent dialogue with the preservation community and residents at large.

HARC would also suggest to the City that we explore establishing an easement, possibly held by the City (again as we are a member of NOVA Parks), addressing continuing the preservation of the restored lobby and for limited public access to it, both for interpretation and for events, as has been enjoyed in the past to the mutual benefit of both the community and any lessee.

For these reasons, HARC suggests and asks that the City adopt a more active role in securing the future of the Bank of Alexandria building, the RFP process – with organized public input – and exploration of an easement to protect the restored lobby. HARC is not suggesting that the City acquire the building, only that it fully protect the important aspects of the site, public access to it, and continued active interpretation of it. These measures would be fully in keeping with the City’s past role with the site, and would not create new encumbrances.

As always, HARC is available to help and support this effort in any way it can.

Elizabeth McCall
Danny Smith
Co-Chairs, Historic Alexandria Resources Commission

Lack of Transparency

FROM PAGE 10

expect such hearings or at least a public process. In addition, there is no transparency in regards to the availability of the property, nor even whether a realtor has been engaged. Even NOVA’s FY 2019 budget is silent on any potential sale or lease. While NOVA’s lapse may be a matter of oversight, certainly the City can and should step up to solicit public input, and establish some tangible, transparent dialogue with the preservation community and residents at large.

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Elizabeth McCall
Danny Smith
Co-Chairs, Historic Alexandria Resources Commission

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY FOR REPORT YEAR 2019

In conformance with the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Unclaimed Property Act, the City of Alexandria is publishing a listing of unclaimed property held at June 30, 2018.

Letters
The 'Deaf Ear Syndrome' is back in town, with Wilson and Lambert steadfastly ignoring the fact that 13 of the City's major Civic Associations on the West End fully support retaining the 4-lane configuration of Seminary Road. This represents 9,279 households and an estimated 25,000 to 30,000 voters.

At a large public hearing on Seminary Road on May 30, with standing-room-only, Lambert emphatically stated that he and the Mayor will give "equal consideration" to residents and non-residents in assessing the fate of Seminary Road. Seminary has to do with the most efficient mode of transportation for the majority of its residents.

Schools are also caught up in this Seminary Road debate, without adequate concern given to the number of school buses needed to transport students to the 2 preschools, an elementary school and a junior high school. This will be further complicated when 800 students from MacArthur will be shifted to Patrick Henry, on top of all the students already there, and everyone is vying for road space.

Where is the pragmatic recognition that 2 major 24/7 operations on Seminary cannot be confined to limited road space? That includes the Fire Department and Alexandria INOVA Hospital. And some staff for those two public service and valuable institutions have been told to "keep their mouth shut."
Lori Lee
(Kosck) Mackey

Lori Lee (Kosck) Mackey, of Alexandria, Virginia, passed away at age 56 on August 18, 2019, after a valiant battle with leiomysarcoma. Lori was born in 1962 in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and met her husband Terry at the University of Wisconsin while pursuing her degree in psychology. Terry and Lori were married in 1990 and have lived in Virginia for the past 30 years, where they raised their daughters Teresa (Tess) and Allison (Allie).

Lori was preceded in death by her sister, Kari. In addition to her husband and daughters, Lori is survived by her father, Edward Kosck, her mother Nancy Brown, and numerous relatives.

Lori was known for her kindness, compassion, and out-going spirit, making everyone she met an instant friend. She was often seen chatting to friends and neighbors, and was an energetic champion of causes she was passionate about.

A Funeral Service is planned for Saturday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m., at St. Mary’s Basilica in Alexandria, followed by a reception in St. Mary’s Lyceum. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Foxcroft School.

Letters to the Editor
From Page 21

minds shut” and not interfere in this process.
That is verbal censorship.

In a city of 160,530 people, only 7 people get to vote on the outcome for Seminary Road.
We’d ask them all to “do the right thing.” If not, they will drag Alexandria into yet another series of Court battles, with taxpayer monies used to fight against the city’s own residents. The examples abound, including issues like the Kariger Estates, Potomac Yard Metro and its wetlands, development of the waterfront and the behind-the-scenes discussions tied to BRAC.

Nothing in recent decades has unified the residents like the Battle for Seminary Road. The ball is in the Council’s court. Don’t take us for granted.

Kathleen M. Burns
Alexandria

Keep Lanes Open on Seminary
To the editor:
I am a frequent bicycle rider in Alexandria and I oppose closing any automobile lanes on Seminary Road.

I think it is a bad idea to cause congestion for many drivers for a bicycle lane that is unneeded and by current estimates will be little used.

I am glad that Alexandria a while ago ended up getting.

I do not want to sound unreasonable because I still think I’m of sound mind (at least my body, but being diagnosed with cancer does, at least in my case, change things). When there are questions, the uncertainty of it all is very off-putting. Sometimes, you don’t know whether you’re coming or going.

Trying to live a “normal” life under these kinds of constraints – and restraints – can make Jack a very dull boy. And very often this dullness manifests itself in one’s inflexibility.

When your life is at stake, it’s nearly impossible to act as if it isn’t. Your brain seemingly gets rewired.

When your life is in jeopardy, dealing with the constraints – and restraints – can make Jack a very dull boy. And very often this dullness manifests itself in one’s inflexibility.

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McEnearney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. This year marks our 40th year in Alexandria, and we are celebrating our investment in helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit www.WeAreAlexandria.com

#WeAreAlexandria

**Hollin Hills | $819,900**

**Belle Haven | $899,000**
Charming indoors & out! 4-bedroom, 3-bath home with all white quartz kitchen. Updated baths and great open floor plan. Exemplary screened great room and extensive hardscape for the outdoor fire pit! Private, beautiful street! 6208 Foxcroft Road Janet Caterson Price 703.622.5984 Heidi Burkhardt 703.217.6009

**Arcturus | $865,000**
Gorgeously renovated home in the Wellington neighborhood in the Waynewood School district. This 4-bedroom, 3-bath home has new kitchen and baths, fully finished basement and expansive backyard. 1122 Arcturus Lane Jillian Keck Hogan 703.951.7655 www.JillianKeckHogan.com

**Del Ray | $625,000**
2-bedroom, 1-bath brick townhouse just 1.5 blocks to The Avenue. Gleaming hardwood floors, 1st floor family room addition, rear deck with large yard and off street parking. Partially finished lower level plumbed for second bath. 546 E. Nelson Avenue Wendy Santantonio 703.625.8802 www.WendySantantonio.com

**Hollin Hall Village | $459,000**
Darling 2-bedroom, 1-bathrambler has been completely updated since 2010 including windows, roof, floors, kitchen, bathroom, mechanical systems & more. Lovely fenced, flat backyard with mature shade trees. Ideally located on a quiet cul-de-sac. 8000 Scott Pl. Jodie Burns 571.228.5790 www.JodieBurns.com

**Wilton Woods | $775,000**
Spacious Dutch Colonial on .45 acres in a great neighborhood. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3,432 total SF. Owners have loved Wilton Woods for over 4 decades! Classic center hall layout, with over-sized 2-car garage. Quick access to beltway, multiple Metro Stations. Peter B. Crouch 703.244.4024 www.CrouchRealtyGroup.com

**Old Town | $825,000**
Classic meets contemporary in perfect harmony. Historic detached townhouse is totally renovated with a gourmet kitchen that would please Julia Childs. Two rare Old Town features: a huge backyard and two off-street parking spaces. 1002 Pendleton Street

**Del Ray | $599,900**
2-bedroom, 2-bath end unit townhouse. Light filled home wows with an open floor plan. The kitchen features stainless steel appliances, granite counters, and island. Finished lower level with full bath. Large bedrooms upstairs. Private yard. Convenient to shopping and dining. 415 Laverne Avenue

**Suzanne Morrison 703.863.3110**
www.SuzanneMorrison.com

**Jen Walker 703.675.1566**
www.JenWalker.com

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